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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.
Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Washington—Rain.
Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho—Rain or snow.
Western Washington—Increasing cloudiness, rain along the coast.

AMONG THE AMENDMENTS.

Next in order of discussion of the fifteen proposed amendments to the Astoria charter, is the change wrought in Section No. 40. This amends the official status of the mayor and gives him additional and specific powers in certain emergencies, that are not only wise, but very essential. In the enforcement of the regulations and ordinances of the city, he is empowered to suspend from office and service, any officer or employee, in the Police, Fire, Street and Surveyor's departments of the city, pending an investigation by the Common Council; and unless such officer or employee is exonerated within thirty days after the filing of the mayor's notice of such official action and its cause, the office or employment so suspended shall be deemed to be vacant. This needs no review, since it is sensible and practical, and must redound to the credit of municipal service in all departments.

The amendment hereinafter alluded to, is brand new and is an addition to the charter, and should not find any opposition in its adoption at the polls. It provides, under the caption of "Section No. 157," that eight hours shall constitute a day's work for the city, in the street, water, street-car and lighting departments of Astoria; and that \$2.50 shall constitute the minimum day's wage for any employee of the city, in such departments. This is fair, and in consonance with the spirit of the age in all lines of employment.

Tomorrow we will offer some further comment on the new propositions.

MR. HILL'S WISDOM.

The remark of James J. Hill "that a canal should be carried through the Mississippi to the Gulf," seemed to express a new and radical project. Yet, a moment's reflection sharply indicates its abounding need. The trans-continental railways now require from six months to a year to deliver Eastern freight on the north Pacific seaboard; the ship service from New York via Cape Horn, can do as well as that; local railway rates from the middle-west to the Atlantic seaboard preclude freight going that way. The canal to the Gulf, via the Mississippi, would relieve this embargo of time and rate, and once established, and the Panama canal completed, the equator would be rarely crossed, save by time-freight, the delivery of which has no bearing on the situation. It is but another expression of the profound wisdom of this transportation genius, and is peculiarly unselfish, since it would be a direct and competitive agency against rail transportation.

WHY NOT OREGON?

The United States Census Bulletin, No. 61, dealing, among other things, with the canning and preserving of fish, gives a long array of figures and facts in relation to the output and value of the Alaskan and Washington salmon fisheries, but has never a

word to say about the totals in this line pertaining to Oregon. Why not? Are these documents inspired? If so, who by? These queries may be idle, but they are pertinent, it seems to us!

MAKE A BREAK, SOMEBODY!

We would like to hear of some person, or persons, fraternity, lodge, civic body, or organic group, passing resolutions, and forwarding them to Washington, by way of endorsement of the bill for an appropriation of \$10,000 for the erection of a permanent and beautiful monument upon the site of Fort Clatsop on the Lewis & Clark. Say the good word, and say it quickly, and send it on to Senator Fulton, without loss of time. It is exceedingly important.

HERE'S TO YOU!

The people of the great Willamette Valley are striving earnestly and intelligently for an open river, and they have our best wishes. Apropos of this, the mighty Columbia should be speedily opened, also. There is nothing like an open river to curb the encroachments of the railroads on their banks!

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Congress will notice that the waterways sentiment is all on the affirmative side.

China has placed a ban on cigarettes which is unkind in view of the sort of bombs China fires in time of war.

It is hard to deny that Count Boni was a success as a matrimonial speculation. His debts still amount to \$4,000,000.

Blizzards do not cause so much trouble in the southwest as they formerly did. The people know how to brace for them.

Oklahoma can grow four crops of alfalfa in a season. Soil like that will not long continue to produce Democratic majorities.

It would be hard to find a grease spot left if New York city and the solid south were eliminated from the Democratic programme.

A dozen states have instituted suits against the Standard Oil company and its offshoots. It must be that somebody has offered a pennant.

The collision of two big ocean liners is reported. If the sea is not big enough for ships the balloonists should chart the atmosphere carefully for their coming voyages.

The all-water route to the markets of the south may not settle the transportation question, but it will help some.

Illinois ranks next to Pennsylvania as a coal state, and Missouri, which has coal deposits in forty counties, is climbing steadily in the list.

All is well in South America. President Castro claims to be alive, and Secretary Root vouches for the good health of the Monroe doctrine.

Peary is reported to be short of coal, but he is probably no shorter than he would be if he were at home. The coal trust is no respecter of persons or localities.

Peary got within 293 miles of the pole and thinks he would have reached it but for one unlucky storm. The goal is near and Peary is still in vigorous condition.

Since returning to the United States Bryan has handicapped himself with the public ownership of railroads and Hearst, and there are two years more to hear from.

A London paper has an article on American multi-millionaires who began as poor boys, and is compelled to leave out most of the list on account of a lack of space.

NO OPIUM IN CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

There is not the least danger in giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to small children, as it contains no opium or other harmful drug. It has an established reputation of more than thirty years, as the most successful medicine in use for colds, croup and whooping cough. It always cures and is pleasant to take. Frank Hart and Leading Druggists.

My heart and hand another claimed, His plea had come too late.

It's ever thus with people without pluck and vim.

Take Rocky Mountain Tea and don't get left again.

For sale by Frank Hart.

A Poem for Today

THE INDIAN'S LAMENT



Let me go to my home in the far distant west,
To the scenes of my childhood in innocence blest,
Where the tall cedar waves and the bright waters flow,
Where my fathers repose; let me go, let me go!

Let me go to the spot where the cataract plays,
Where oft I have sported in boyhood's bright days,
And greet my poor mother, whose heart would o'erflow
At the sight of her child—then to her let me go!

Let me go to my sire, by whose battle scarred side
I have sported so oft in the morn of my pride
And exulted to conquer the insolent foe;
To my father, the chief, let me go, let me go!

And, oh, let me go to my flashing eyed maid,
Who taught me to love 'neath the green willow shade,
Whose heart, like the fawn, leaps as pure as the snow;
To the bosom I love let me go, let me go!

And, oh, let me go to my wild forest home,
No more from its life cheering pleasures to roam,
'Neath the groves and the glens let my ashes lie low—
To my home in the woods let me go, let me go!

ASSOCIATED EFFORT.

AGENCY BY WHICH LABOR HAS IMPROVED ITS CONDITION.

The Trades Union is the Most Effective Force Yet Devised For the Benefit of the Worker—Develops Justice Between Men.

The genius of man invented machinery, and this was followed by the system of factory production, which largely eliminated the old time isolated worker and brought the manual laborers together in groups, facilitating interchange of thought, oftentimes imposing new burdens on the worker, but at the same time teaching him the advantages of associated effort.

The discovery of modern methods of transportation and communication in like manner made it possible for the spirit of associative effort to extend itself beyond the local sphere, and there has naturally followed the national and international union of labor.

Another contributory factor has been the achieving of political rights and responsibilities by wage earners. The man who proudly bears the title of sovereign citizen does not hesitate to seek the remedy for industrial inequality and possesses quite a different outlook from his serf predecessor, who did not dare to call his soul his own.

All these various changes have given impetus and inspiration to the men of the world to lay hold of the effective agency of associated effort in order to reach higher levels of comfort for themselves and families.

Trades unionists recognize that there are many relationships between employers and employees which are kindred or even identical. They do not in the main seek to divide society upon horizontal lines of cleavage. They are believers in the fundamental principles of democracy, which stand for the protection of equitable property rights as well as for personal freedom.

The trades union has to deal with vast numbers of average men, among whom we find the stupid as well as the intelligent, the selfish as well as the altruistic, the sluggish as well as the alert, and its working policy must take all these things into account. When all this is said, we maintain that its influence for good, for developing the faculty of mutual self help, the graces of benevolence and fraternity, for arousing the desire and will for the better things of life, is scarcely equalled by any other human institution.

The labor problem, so called, is simply a part of the greater problem of human life, of human relationships, and as such cannot well be differentiated from that problem. Trades unionism seeks to develop justice between men in their industrial relationships in particular; it tries to teach wage earners that they can do better for themselves by trying to help lift one another up rather than by following the policy of each man for himself and the devil take the hindmost. It tries to convince the employer that it is for his interest to treat his employees as men rather than as parts of machinery; that it is wise business policy to recognize the fact that there should be two sides to the labor bargain as well as in other bargains; that, although he has a legal property right in his shop and machinery, he has no property right in the laborers of whom he buys labor, but he has a moral responsibility to deal justly with them.

Trades union philosophy, therefore, reaches the conclusion that while in many ways the man who buys and the man who sells labor may have identical interests—for instance, in their political, religious, educational, fraternal, charitable and many other relationships—yet as parties to the bargain they must make for the commodity of labor their interests are by no means identical any more than are the interests of the man who goes into a store to buy goods with the storekeeper. The storekeeper wants to get his price; the buyer wants to cheapen. In order to do business they must reach a point of agreement, but that is all.

Something very analogous to this exists in the labor world. The laborer has something to sell for which he wants the best possible price warranted by the conditions. Conversely the buyer wants to get this commodity at the lowest possible price. Here may

be and usually is a reciprocal interest, but by no stretch of the imagination can that statement be true which is so often told us—that "the interests of the employer and employee are identical."

It by no means follows that because of this economic diversity of interests the two parties to the labor bargain should go to war about it. There is a better way, and the industrial world is learning it, although at the cost of much bitter experience on both sides. The industrial agreement is being substituted for the strike. John Mundella, the great apostle of arbitration in Great Britain, well said, "We cannot expect industrial peace until we treat the man who has the commodity of labor to sell with the same consideration we treat the man who comes to us with any other commodity." And it is not the least of the triumphs of the trades union philosophy that this wisdom of Mr. Mundella's is becoming more and more appreciated by the fair minded captains of industry in America.

Trades unionism seeks high wages, reasonable leisure, fair conditions, the abolition of child labor and the general well being of the wage earner.

It believes this to be the best for the entire community as well as the worker. Money paid in wages returns back into the channels of trade, stimulating production and quickening business enterprise, while excessive profits on inflated corporation stock or trust monopolies are either accumulated or squandered in ways which do not benefit the public.—Frank K. Foster in *Social Workers' Journal*.

It may be a girl that's comin',
It may be a boy like me,
They oughter know,
But 't seems as though
They can't tell which 't will be.

There's a lot o' nightgowns ready
That wouldn't fit the cat.
Such teeny clothes—
I wouldn't 'pose
'T would be as well as that.

They say 't will be a young one,
But I guess I'll wait 'n' see.
If they dunno yet
What kind they'll get,
They dunno how old 't will be.

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